

# FAYE HEAVYSHIELD

## *Clan*

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*Clan* was developed without predetermination from the artist, but rather by unfolding itself organically. Faye HeavyShield engages in a dialogue with the ways the idea presents itself, and through this process the idea is distilled to reveal its true form, its essence. Like the land in which it takes place, the idea isn't fenced in or restricted. It is free to become what it will be, and in that way, it is like the river or the valley. They are in a constant state of change, yet they are what they are. The resulting artwork reflects exactly that.

Land and time are the materials with which Faye HeavyShield is working. Gestures are made without permanent implications to the land, while recognizing that the land itself is in perpetual flux. The work alludes to the impermanence of the womens' presence in the land as well as the transient nature of the land itself. The state of the land at the time of production becomes part of the work: the weather, the temperature, the sky, the sounds. Playful acts are made through space and time, land and gesture. Relations are also implied – kinship among each other and, perhaps more essentially, kinship

to the land. Communications between the women and the land are expressed through their actions. The physical connection is what is being expressed; deeper meanings or statements are open to interpretation from the viewer.

*Clan* resists categorization, distorting the borders between determined classifications for art practices and media: site-specificity, performance, video, photography, documentary, textiles, installation, sculpture. It is not restricted by any of these labels, and yet encompasses elements of them.

The exhibition includes a photographic mural of Kainai waterways by Faye HeavyShield, *A river is a river but it is never the same*.

Curated by Kristy Trinier and Kylie Fineday

This exhibition is circulated by the Southern Alberta Art Gallery Maansiksikaitsitapiitsinikssin and supported by the Canada Council for the Arts, the Alberta Foundation for the Arts, and the City of Lethbridge.

# FAYE HEAVYSHIELD

Kainai, Alberta, 1953

## **1. *Where You Were, Here I Am***

2020

Canvas flags and wood support

243.8 x 60.9 cm

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## **2. *matri-liminal***

2020

Inkjet prints on paper

152.4 x 101.6 cm each

Production assistance by Blaine Campbell

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## **3. *Kate Three Persons, Blood, holding a baby***

n.d.

Inkjet print on paper

152.4 x 101.6 cm

Courtesy of Glenbow Archives, Archives and Special Collections,  
University of Calgary. Modifications to this image include retouching

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## **4. *the grandmothers***

2020

Canvas dresses

Variable dimensions

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## **5. *Clan***

2020

HD video, colour

14 min 4 s

Production assistance by Blaine Campbell

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## **6. *A River Is a River But It Is Never the Same***

2020

Photograph on vinyl

355.6 x 304.8 cm

Production assistance by Blaine Campbell

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All works courtesy of the artist

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# FLOOR PLAN

1<sup>st</sup> floor

Salle EBI

\*Work number 6 is outside of the museum

